List of risks that may affect smooth implementation of Phase 2 of Africa RISING in ESA

1. Since the donor approves funds only on annual basis, we do never know for sure how much we will receive for the next year. Notification of approval of funds comes often after the start of the new fiscal year. Therefore we have to plan assuming the funds will come in the expected amount.

2. With the announcement of a revision of foreign aid assistance by the US Government and ongoing changes in the administration of USAID we might receive less funds in future.

3. Resignation of key staff such as Chief Scientist, Project Manager, communications or gender specialist. These are positions difficult to fill at this point in time of the project lifespan. This is a hypothetical risk. There are no indications that this will happen.

4. Resignation or replacement of key staff in partner organizations. This has not happened in the past. Partner organizations and staff are happy to be part of Africa RISING and receiving funds from the project.

5. Pressure on Africa RISING to make higher financial contributions to IITA beyond Overheads and RSS.

6. Deduction of funds from Africa RISING by IITA management in the middle of a fiscal year without prior announcement/discussion.

7. Incompatibility of ORACLE Financial System with the project’s fiscal year.

8. Mismatch between ORACLE and PROMIS does not allow budget holders to monitor cost centers in a handy way.

9. Severe weather events in the implementation countries can affect our field experiments and therefore delay scalable research results.